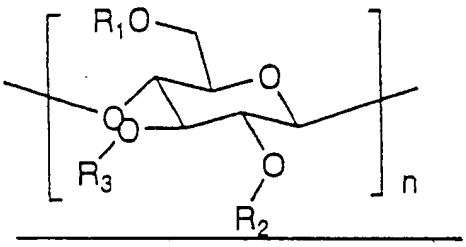
Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims

1. (Currently amended) A liquid crystal mixed-composition comprising ~~one or more~~ the cellulose derivative ~~derivatives and one or more liquid crystal compounds~~ which has the following structure:



(1)

wherein R_1, R_2 and R_3, which may be the same or different, respectively represent a member selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, an acyloxyalkyl group and a carbamoyloxyalkyl group, provided that R_1, R_2 and R_3 are not all hydrogen atoms and n denotes an integer of 10 or more; and one or more liquid crystal compounds which can be oriented in a specific direction differing from ~~that of~~ said cellulose derivative.

2. (Currently amended) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim 1, wherein the ratio by weight of said ~~one or more~~ cellulose derivative and ~~derivatives to~~ said one or more liquid crystal compounds which can be oriented in a specific direction differing from ~~that of said~~ the cellulose derivative is in a range from 1:9 to 9:1.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to ~~claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1 or 2, wherein the liquid crystal compound which can be oriented ~~in another~~ to the specific direction is a low-molecular liquid crystal compound having a molecular weight of 1000 or less.

6. (Original) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim 5, wherein the low-molecular liquid crystal compound is a (meth)acrylate liquid crystal compound.

7. (Original) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim 6, wherein the (meth)acrylate liquid

crystal compound is an acrylate compound represented by the following formula (2): $H_2C=CHCOO-(X)_n-O-Y-Z$

wherein X represents a methylene group which may be substituted with a methyl group or a phenyl group, Y represents a divalent group in which two to four rings selected from the group consisting of a benzene ring and a cyclohexane ring are ~~connected~~ bonded by a single bond or a connecting group, where these rings may be respectively substituted with one or two C1-C6 alkyl groups or phenyl groups and Z represents a cyano group, an aliphatic group having 1 to 8 carbon atoms, an aliphatic oxy group having 1 to 8 carbon atoms or $-O-(X)_n-OCOCH=CH_2$.

8. (Currently amended) A lyotropic liquid crystal mixed-composition ~~comprising~~ wherein the lyotropic liquid crystal mixed-composition comprises the mixed-composition according to ~~as claimed in any one of~~ claim 1 or 2, ~~claims 1 to 7~~ and an organic solvent, ~~the composition exhibiting~~ and exhibits a lyotropic liquid crystal state.

9. (Currently amended) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim 8, wherein the composition further ~~comprising~~ comprises a reactive compound and a photoinitiator.

10. (Currently amended) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim ~~8~~ 9, wherein the reactive compound is a (meth)acryl compound.

11. (Currently amended) A retardation film produced from the liquid crystal mixed-composition ~~as claimed in~~ according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1 or 2, wherein the liquid crystal mixed-composition is oriented in a specific direction~~;~~.

12. (Original) The retardation film according to claim 11, wherein the relation Re450 ≤ Re550 ≤ Re650 is established between the retardation value (Re450) measured at a wavelength of 450 nm, the retardation value (Re550) measured at a wavelength of 550 nm and the retardation value (Re650) measured at a wavelength of 650 nm~~;~~.

13. (Currently amended) The retardation film according to claim 11~~ or 12~~, wherein the film ~~being~~ is produced by forming a layer of the liquid crystal mixed-composition ~~as claimed in~~ according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1 or 2 on ~~the rubbed~~ a rubbing treatment substrate ~~and by orienting~~ for orientation of the liquid crystal.

14. (Currently amended) The retardation film according to claim 13, wherein the orientation of the liquid crystal mixed-composition is fixed.

15. (Currently amended) The retardation film according to claim 11, wherein the film ~~having~~ has a retardation of a quarter wavelength or a half wavelength.

16. (Currently amended) A circularly or elliptically polarizing film or a ~~rotary~~ rotatory polarizing film obtained by laminating the retardation film ~~as claimed in any one of~~ according to claim ~~claims~~ 11 ~~to 15~~ and a polarizing film.

17. (Currently amended) An image display device ~~comprising~~ having the retardation film as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ according to claim 11 ~~to 15 or the circularly or elliptically polarizing film as claimed in claim 16~~.

18. (Currently amended) A method of producing ~~a~~ the retardation film according to claim 13, ~~the method comprising~~ characterized by forming a layer ~~using~~ with the liquid crystal mixed-composition ~~as claimed in~~ according to

~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1 or 2 on a ~~rubbed~~ rubbing treatment substrate, followed by heat treatment.

19. (Original) The method of producing a retardation film according to claim 18, wherein the relation Re450 ≤ Re550 ≤ Re650 is established between the retardation value (Re450) measured at a wavelength of 450 nm, the retardation value (Re550) measured at a wavelength of 550 nm and the retardation value (Re650) measured at a wavelength of 650 nm by carrying out heat treatment at 40°C. to 100°C.

20. (New) An image display device having the circularly or elliptically polarizing film or the rotatory polarizing film according to claim 16.